

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 PARIS 28506 011133Z

10

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-05

NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 NSC-05 MC-02 DODE-00 EB-07 OMB-01 /073 W

----- 096465

R 011118Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4794

INFO USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USNMR SHAPE

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION NATO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PARIS 28506

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: PFOR, MILI, FR

SUBJECT: FRENCH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY APPROVES 1976

DEFENSE BUDGET

REF: PARIS 23900

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 PARIS 28506 011133Z

SUMMARY: NATIONAL ASSEMBLY APPROVED 1976 FRENCH DEFENSE BUDGET OF 50 BILLION FRANCS. ASSEMBLY DEBATE ON BUDGET REQUEST CENTERED ON ABSENCE OF LONG-RANGE PLANNING WITHIN GOVERNMENT PROPOSALS. CRITICS WERE ALSO CONCERNED THAT BUDGET REQUEST SLIGHTED CONVENTIONAL EQUIPMENT SECTORS. END SUMMARY

1. AT CONCLUSION OF OCCASIONALLY HEATED DEBATE WHICH EXTENDED INTO EARLY MORNING HOURS OF OCTOBER 31. NATIONAL ASSEMBLY APPROVED BY COMFORTABLE MARGIN 1976 GOVERNMENT DEFENSE BUDGET REQUEST. VOTE SPLIT ESSENTIALLY ALONG MAJORITY-OPPOSITION LINES.

2. CRITICISM OF GOVERNMENT PROPOSALS LEVELED BY LEFT, CENTER, AND SOME GAULLIST DEPUTIES WAS LED BY FORMER PRIME MINISTER AND DEFENSE MINISTER MICHEL DEBRE. FOR THE MOST PART, IT CENTERED ON ABSENCE OF FIVE-YEAR PLAN WITHIN BUDGET REQUEST. (IN THEORY, 1976 WAS TO BE BEGINNING OF NEW MILITARY PLANNING CYCLE). AS RESULT, GOVERNMENT AGREED TO AMENDMENT REQUIRING IT TO SUBMIT A REPORT TO PARLIAMENT BEFORE MARCH 31. 1976 OUTLINING MEDIUM-TERM DEFENSE GOALS. TO EMPHASIZE HIS OWN STRONG FEELINGS ON THIS QUESTION, DEBRE PLEDGED THAT SHOULD LONGER RANGE PLANNING NOT BE UNDERTAKEN LEADING TO SUBSTANTIALLY INCREASED DEFENSE FUNDING HE AND "CERTAIN OTHER DEPUTIES" WOULD VOTE NOT ONLY AGAINST 1977 DEFENSE REQUEST BUT AGAINST ENTIRE GOF BUDGET AS WELL.

3. SOME DEPUTIES WERE ALSO CRITICAL OF WHAT THEY TERMED "CONTINUING DEGRADATION" OF CONVENTIONAL EQUIPMENT SECTORS REFLECTED IN 1976 BUDGET PROPOSAL. CURRENT BUDGET REQUEST OF 50 BILLION FRANCS, AS POINTED OUT BY MINISTER OF DEFENSE YVON BOURGES DURING HIS PRESENTATION, REPRESENTS A 14.19 PERCENT INCREASE OVER 1975 BRINGING DEFENSE SHARE OF TOTAL GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES TO 17.06 PERCENT. FOR BOURGES, 1976 REQUEST WAS TURN-AROUND FROM PREVIOUS PATTERN OF DECREASING DEFENSE EXPENDITURES. CRITICS, HOWEVER, WERE QUICK TO POINT OUT THAT, WHEN INFLATION AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 PARIS 28506 011133Z

ANTICIPATED SALARY INCREASES WERE FACTORED IN, MILITARY WOULD BE HARD PRESSED TO FIND ADDITIONAL FUNDS FOR CONVENTIONAL ARMS AND EQUIPMENT MODERNIZATION.

4. MORE COMPLETE ANALYSIS OF 1976 DEFENSE BUDGET WILL FOLLOW BY AIRGRAM.  
RUSH

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY BUDGET, GOVERNMENT BUDGET  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 01 NOV 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** SmithRJ  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975PARIS28506  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750380-0233  
**From:** PARIS  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19751184/aaaacxfp.tel  
**Line Count:** 114  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 PARIS 23900  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** SmithRJ  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 23 APR 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <23 APR 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <03 OCT 2003 by SmithRJ>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** FRENCH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY APPROVES 1976 DEFENSE BUDGET  
**TAGS:** PFOR, MILI, FR  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006